

# HOOVER®

## FloorMAX™

### Hard Floor Machine

Owner's Manual

English → pp. 1-8

Español → pág. 9-14

Français → p. 15-20

**Thank you for selecting a HOOVER® product.**

This cleaner was inspected and packaged carefully before being shipped from the factory. If you should happen to need assistance during assembly or operation, call

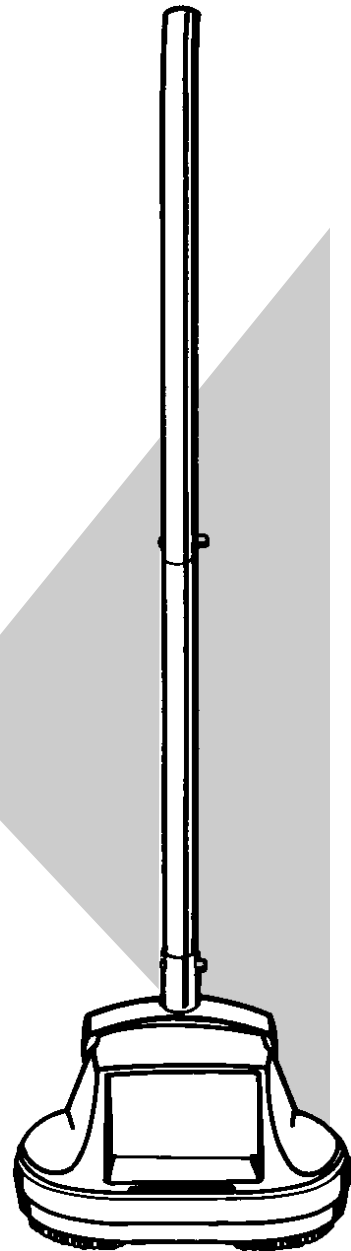
**1-800-944-9200** for automated referral of authorized service outlet locations (U.S. only) OR

1-330-499-9499 to speak with a representative in our Consumer Response Center OR

Visit us online at **www.hoovercompany.com** to find the service outlet nearest you (click on the "Service" button).

**PLEASE DO NOT RETURN THIS PRODUCT TO THE STORE.**

Review this manual before  
operating cleaner.



# Fill in and retain!

The model and serial number are located on the rear wheel cover of the floor machine.

For your personal records, please enter these numbers in the spaces provided below and retain in a safe place.

Your floor machine is model \_\_\_\_\_

and has serial number \_\_\_\_\_

It is suggested that you attach your sales receipt to this owner's manual.

Verification of date of purchase may be required for warranty service of your Hoover product.

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[www.hoovercompany.com](http://www.hoovercompany.com)

## IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDS!

When using an electrical appliance, always follow basic precautions, including the following:

**READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE USING THIS APPLIANCE**

### WARNING: To reduce the risk of fire, electric shock, or injury

- Use indoors only.
- This appliance is provided with double insulation. Use only identical replacement parts. See instructions for servicing of double-insulated appliance under "Service".
- Close supervision is necessary when any appliance is used by or near children. Do not allow this appliance to be used as a toy or to run unattended at any time.
- Keep hair, loose clothing, fingers, feet and all parts of body away from openings and other moving parts. Do not operate floor machine in bare feet or when wearing open toe shoes or sandals.
- Do not use with flammable or combustible liquids such as gasoline or use in areas where they may be present.
- When using chemicals with this machine, be certain area is well ventilated.
- Follow manufacturer's instructions for all chemicals used with this machine. Do not exceed recommended mixing ratios.
- Use only commercially available floor cleaners and waxes intended for machine application.
- Use extra care when cleaning on stairs.
- Do not put any object into openings. Do not use with any opening blocked; keep free of dust, lint, hair, or anything that may reduce air flow.
- Unplug the cord from outlet when not in use or when taking off or putting on brushes or pads. Be sure handle is in upright position before attaching or removing plug from outlet.
- Always disconnect cord from electrical outlet before servicing the floor machine.
- Do not unplug by pulling on cord. To unplug, grasp the plug, not the cord. Never handle plug or appliance with wet hands.
- Do not pull or carry by cord, use cord as a handle, close door on cord or pull cord around sharp edges or corners. Do not run appliance over cord. Keep cord away from heated surfaces.
- The use of an extension cord is not recommended. If an extension cord is absolutely necessary, use one with an electrical rating equal or greater than the voltage and amperes specified on the data plate located on the wheel cover.
- Do not use with damaged cord or plug. If appliance is not working as it should, has been dropped, damaged, left outdoors, or dropped into water, take it to a Hoover Factory Service Center or Authorized Hoover Warranty Service Dealer (Depot).
- Use appliance for its intended use as described in this owner's manual. Use only attachments recommended by The Hoover Company; others may cause hazards.

## SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS!

# Questions or Concerns?

The Hoover Company wants to quickly resolve any concerns about your cleaner or questions regarding its use. Look on the list provided with the product for your local **Hoover Factory Service Center** or in the Yellow Pages under "Vacuum Cleaners - Household" for the nearest **Authorized Hoover Warranty Service Dealer** (Depot) or call:

**1-800-944-9200** for an automated referral of authorized service outlet locations (U.S. only) OR

1-330-499-9499 to speak with a representative in the Hoover Consumer Response Center OR

Visit us online at [www.hoovercompany.com](http://www.hoovercompany.com) to find the service outlet nearest you (click on the "Service" button)

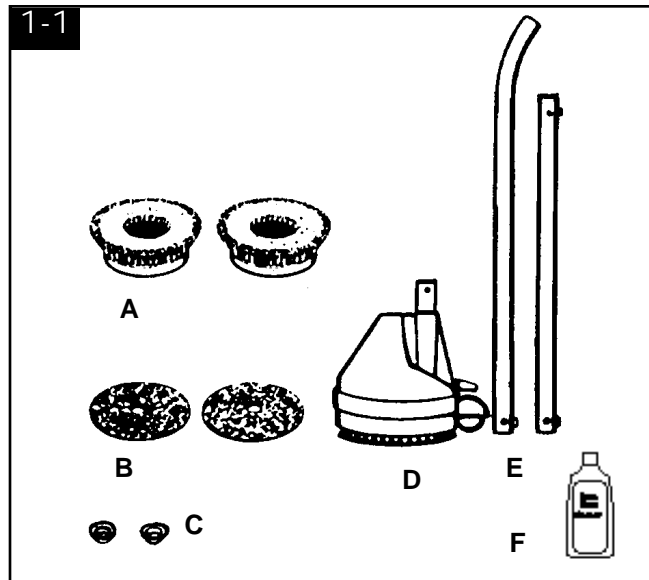
**PLEASE DO NOT RETURN THIS PRODUCT TO THE STORE OR SEND IT TO NORTH CANTON FOR SERVICE.**

## 1. Assembly

### Carton contents

Unpack floor machine and identify the accessories shown. Remove and dispose of packing.

- A. Power Scrub and Cleaning Brushes**
- B. Felt Buffing Pads (gray)**
- C. Fasteners**
- D. Hard Floor Machine**
- E. Upper and Lower Handle Sections**
- F. Bare Floor Cleaner**

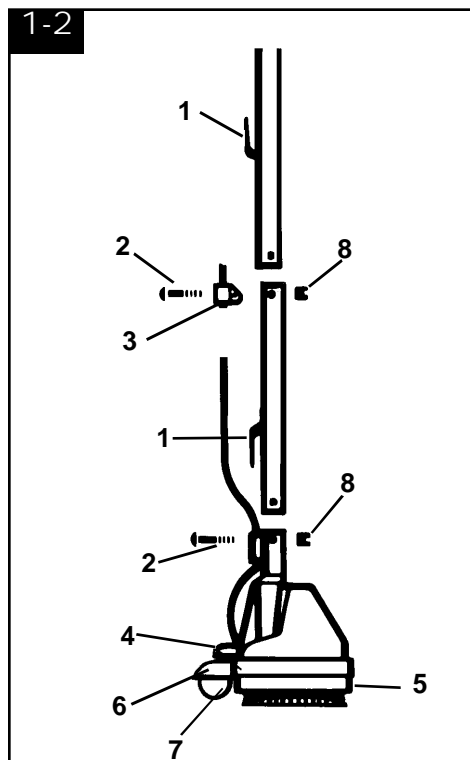


## Description

- 1. Cord Storage Hook**
- 2. Bolt**
- 3. Cord Clip**
- 4. Handle Release**
- 5. Splash Guard**
- 6. Wheel Cover**
- 7. Wheels**
- 8. Nut**

Operate only at voltage specified on data plate.

This appliance is intended for household use.

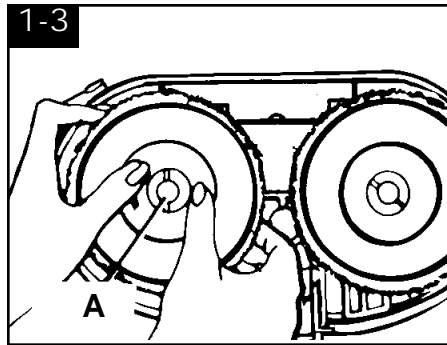


## Attach handle

Remove bolt and nut from lower handle section (straight tube). Place lower handle section into socket in floor machine base with open end of cord storage hook down and to rear. Push bolt through small holes and secure with nut.\* Tighten with screwdriver.

Remove bolt, nut, and cord clip from upper handle. With cord storage hook to rear, join upper and lower handle, lining up holes. Place cord clip around cord with flat side toward handle and holes to the front. Insert bolt through cord clip and small holes in handle, secure with nut.\* Pull up slack in cord and tighten nut with screwdriver.

\*If bolt appears to be too short, it has been inserted through the large holes.

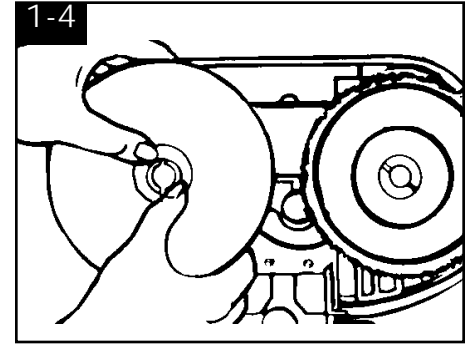


## Attaching and removing brushes and pads

**Disconnect from electric circuit before putting on or removing brushes and pads.**

Place floor machine upside down on flat surface.

**To attach brushes**, press each brush down firmly over brush shaft (A), rotating brush until it clicks into position. To remove grasp center of brush with thumb and fingers and lift up.



**To attach pads**, insert end of fastener through opening in pad. Place pad over brush.

The fastener fits around the brush shaft. Press fastener to snap pad into place.

Unsnap fastener to remove pad.

## 2. How to use

### Polarized plug

To reduce the risk of electric shock, this appliance has a polarized plug (one blade is wider than the other). This plug will fit in a polarized outlet only one way. If the plug does not fit fully in the outlet, reverse the plug. If it still does not fit, contact a qualified electrician to install the proper outlet. Do not change the plug in any way.

### ON-OFF switch

The floor machine's ON-OFF switch is internal and is operated by lowering and raising the handle. Be sure handle is in lock (upright) position before connecting power cord to wall outlet.

Start floor machine by pressing handle release lever and lowering handle. Raise handle to lock position to stop floor machine.

## Cleaning floors

There are three methods of cleaning hard surface floors:

- 1. Water method** - used for all floors that can be cleaned with soap or detergent and water solution.
- 2. Solvent or solvent cleaning wax method** - used for wood and other floors that may be damaged by water solutions.
- 3. Direct application cleaning method** - used for polyurethane sealed hard wood and sealed laminate floors that require periodic restoration.

### 1. Water method

Linoleum, asphalt, rubber, vinyl, masonry and stone floors may be cleaned with a soap or detergent and water solution. Use the floor machine to scrub the floor.

**Do not use the water cleaning method on wood floors.**

1. Vacuum floor thoroughly to remove loose dirt and debris.
2. Attach brushes.
3. Prepare HOOVER Bare Floor Cleaner or other desired cleaning solution as directed on detergent container.

Concentrated ammonia solution must be used to remove some wax. If using a product specifically for wax removal, **read caution label and follow instructions on container.**

**4. Connect cord to a wall receptacle.** Press handle release lever and start floor cleaner by lowering handle.

**5. Start at the end of a room and apply solution to a 3ft. x 6 ft. (1m x 2m) area in two-inch pools and spaced at two-foot intervals. When removing hardened wax, allow solution to remain on floor 3-5 minutes. Do not let solution dry on floor. Wipe up suds with a dampened mop, sponge, or cloth.**

**6. Rinse floor thoroughly** to completely remove cleaning solution from floor. Scrub and rinse each section of the floor the same way.

**7. Let floor dry before waxing.**

Brushes should be rinsed to remove detergent and allowed to dry before using them to polish or buff.

## 2. Solvent cleaning wax method

Wood and other floors may be damaged by using water solution; therefore, use only those cleaners and waxes recommended specifically for these types of floors.

The following directions are for cleaning wood or other floors with a cleaning polishing solvent base **liquid** wax.

1. Vacuum floor to remove loose dirt and debris. Wipe up sticky spots with a damp cloth.
2. Apply wax-cleaner according to manufacturer's instructions on the container.
3. Refer to "Polishing and buffing floors".

## 3. Direct application method

Polyurethane sealed hard wood and sealed laminate flooring can be cleaned using a floor cleaner specially formulated for this type of floor. Check with the flooring manufacturer for a recommended cleaner. Your floor machine can be used periodically with this type of cleaner to help restore the floor's luster.

1. Vacuum floor thoroughly to remove loose dirt and debris.
2. Attach the soft cloth pads (available at additional cost) to floor machine referring to directions for Figs. 1-3 and 1-4.
3. Following directions on cleaner bottle, start at one end of a room and apply cleaner to a 3 ft. x 6 ft. (1m x 2m)

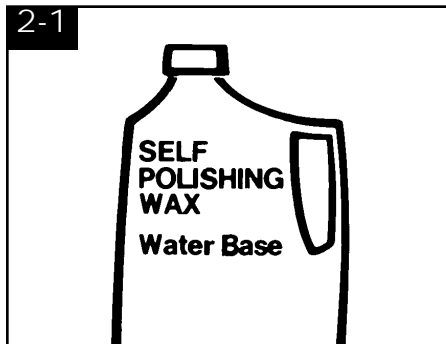
area. Connect floor machine cord to a wall receptacle. Press handle release lever and start floor machine by lowering handle.

4. Move the floor machine slowly over the area until the floor is completely dry. During the transition from wet to dry, the floor machine will seem to "labor" (motor sound will change and the floor machine may feel different) until the floor cleaner has dried completely. The floor machine motor will then return to its original sound and feel.

5. To restore shine to stubborn areas, attach the heavy duty cleaning and waxing pads (available at additional cost) and repeat steps 3 and 4. Such areas can also be dry buffed (without applying a wood floor cleaner) using the heavy duty cleaning and waxing pads.

## Waxing floors

There are two types of wax to use on hard surface floors: water-base and solvent base.



### 1. Water-base wax

Water-base wax is a self-polishing wax which does not contain a petroleum solvent. It can be used on all hard surface floors except wood.

**Follow the directions on the container to apply. Do not polish or buff this wax.**

### 2. Solvent-base wax

Solvent-base wax can be identified by the caution statement: "Flammable" or "Combustible" on the label. It is used on wood floors and can be polished and buffed when dry. **Do not use solvent-base wax on asphalt or rubber tile or other hard surface floors unless specified by the manufacturer.**

There are two kinds of solvent-base wax: paste wax and liquid cleaning-polishing wax.



#### a. Paste wax

To spread wax evenly, attach power scrub and cleaning brushes to floor machine and snap on heavy duty cleaning and waxing pads. (Available at additional cost.)

Spread a thin coat of wax on pads or spread a small amount on floor with

spatula. Start by pressing handle release lever and lowering handle. Apply wax to floor, by guiding in straight lines or with grain of the wood, until wax is spread evenly.



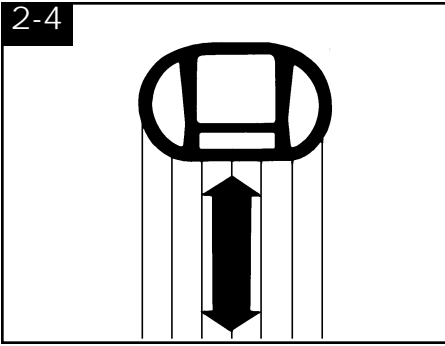
#### b. Cleaning-polishing wax

This type of wax is used to clean as well as wax floors. Apply wax according to instructions on the container.

**Use the floor machine only to polish floors when this type of wax is used.**

Refer to section "Cleaning floors - Solvent cleaning wax method".

2-4



## Polishing and buffing floors

Floors waxed with **solvent-base wax** may be polished and buffed with the floor machine.

1. Be sure wax is thoroughly dry before polishing. This usually takes 20-30 minutes but may take longer in damp weather.
2. Use power scrub and cleaning brushes to polish floor. Press handle release and start by lowering handle. Guide the floor machine in straight lines or with the grain of the wood.
3. A double coat of wax will give floors more protection. Let wax dry thoroughly and polish after each application.

## To achieve a high luster finish

1. Attach felt buffing pads over power scrub and cleaning brushes using fasteners. Polish to a soft shine by guiding the floor machine in straight line or with the grain of wood. If more shine is desired proceed to Step 2.
2. Remove felt buffing pads and attach high luster pads (available at additional cost). Once again, guide the handle in straight lines or with the grain of the wood to achieve a high luster finish.

## To keep floors bright and shiny

The floor should be buffed frequently to restore sheen and remove scratches and marks. This lengthens the time between waxings. Before buffing, use a vacuum cleaner to remove dust and dirt and a damp cloth to remove sticky particles. Stubborn spots, such as black heel marks, can be removed by rubbing gently with very fine steel wool dampened with wax.

If traffic areas need to be rewaxed and polished, and a solvent-base wax has been used on the floor, apply wax only to these areas then buff the entire floor.

## 3. Maintenance

Familiarize yourself with these home maintenance tasks as proper use and care of your appliance will ensure continued cleaning effectiveness.

### Splash guard

Wipe splash guard with dry cleaning fluid or liquid soap to remove wax and dirt after each use.

### Floor machine base

Remove brushes and dry bottom of floor machine with a paper towel or cloth before storing.

### Brushes

The brushes need to be washed in warm water and synthetic detergent to remove wax. Rinse well. Shake to remove excess water. To dry, place on paper towels with brushes turned toward towels. Let brushes dry before reattaching. Wash heavy duty cleaning and waxing pads the same way as brushes; rinse, and shake to remove excess water.

## Felt and high luster pads

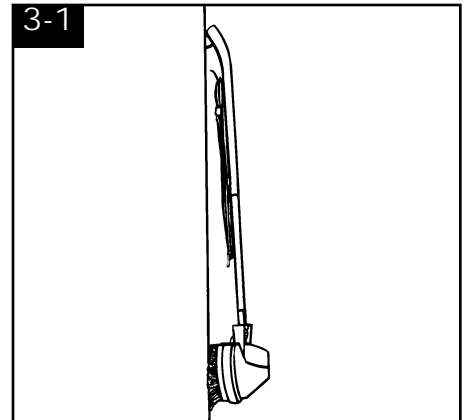
(Available at additional cost)

The pads should be washed occasionally to remove wax. If floor machine does not glide easily when buffing floors, it may be due to an accumulation of wax on the pads.

Pads should be washed in the same way as brushes. Shake the lambs wool pads several times while drying to restore fluffiness.

Let pads dry thoroughly before re-using. The felt and high luster pads must be completely dry to polish floors effectively.

3-1



## Storage

Wrap cord around cord storage hooks located near bottom and top of handle.

Store your floor machine in a cleaning closet or convenient place, ready for use. Hang it on the wall or remove brushes and store it with the handle in the upright position. Never store it on the brushes.

## 4. If you have a problem

If a minor problem occurs it usually can be solved quite easily when the cause is found by using the check list below.

### Problem: Floor machine won't run

#### Possible cause

Possible solution

- **Not firmly plugged in**
- Plug in firmly
- **No voltage in wall plug**
- Check fuse or breaker
- **Blown fuse/tripped breaker**
- Replace fuse/reset breaker

### Problem: Floor machine does not glide easily

#### Possible cause

Possible solution

- **Brushes and pads not properly attached.**
- Attach brushes properly.
- **Accumulation of wax on felt pads.**
- Wash and dry pads thoroughly.

## Lubrication

The motor is equipped with two sleeve bearings. These bearings contain sufficient lubrication for the life of the motor. The addition of lubricant could cause damage. **Therefore, do not add lubricant to either motor bearing.**

## Servicing of double-insulated appliances

This appliance is double-insulated. In a double-insulated appliance, two systems of insulation are provided instead of grounding. No grounding means is provided on a double-insulated appliance, nor should a means for grounding be added. Servicing a double-insulated appliance requires extreme care and knowledge of the system, and should be done only by qualified service personnel. **Replacement parts must be identical to those parts being replaced.** A double-insulated appliance is marked with the words "DOUBLE-INSULATION" or "DOUBLE INSULATED". The symbol  may also be marked on the appliance.

## Service

To obtain approved HOOVER service and genuine HOOVER parts, locate the nearest **Hoover Factory Service Center or Authorized Hoover Warranty Service Dealer (Depot)** by:

- checking the Yellow Pages under "Vacuum Cleaners - Household" OR
- checking the list of Factory Service Centers provided with this cleaner OR -
- calling **1-800-944-9200** for an automated referral of authorized service outlet locations (U.S. only) OR -
- checking the Service section of The Hoover Company on-line at **www.hoovercompany.com**

**Please do not** send your cleaner to The Hoover Company in North Canton for service, this will only result in delay.

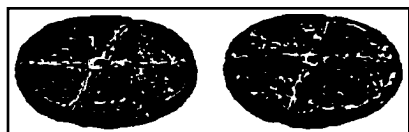
If further assistance is needed, contact The Hoover Company Consumer Response Center, North Canton, Ohio 44720 Phone: 330-499-9499.

In Canada, contact Hoover Canada, Burlington, Ontario L7R 4A8, Phone: 1-800-263-6376.

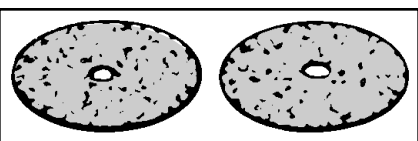
Always identify your cleaner by the **complete** model number when requesting information or ordering parts. (The model number appears on the rear wheel cover.)

## Accessories

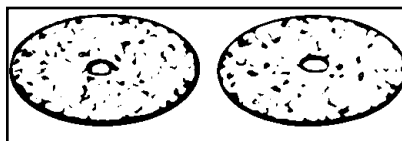
(Available at additional cost from Hoover Dealers (Depots), Hoover Factory Service Centers, by filling out the enclosed order form or through The Hoover Company on-line at [www.hoovercompany.com](http://www.hoovercompany.com))



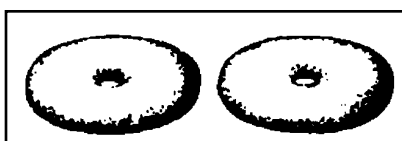
**Steel wool pads** for applying solvent-base paste wax. Snap on over power scrub and cleaning brushes.



**Heavy duty cleaning and waxing pads (yellow)** snap on over power scrub and cleaning brushes for cleaning and applying paste wax.



**Soft cloth pads (beige)** snap on over power scrub and cleaning brushes for periodic restoration of polyurethane sealed hard wood and sealed laminate



**High luster pads** for polishing floors. Snap on over power scrub and cleaning brushes.

# Floor care hints

Floors may be difficult to care for when not treated properly. Refer to the chart below for solutions to floor problems.

## Problem: Slippery floor

### Possible cause

Possible solution

- **Too much wax.**
- Remove wax. Apply thin even coat.
- **Detergent not rinsed from floor.**
- Remove wax. Rinse detergent from floor before waxing.
- **Floor not dry when wax applied.**
- Remove wax. Let floor dry thoroughly before rewaxing.
- **Floor not polished properly.**
- Polish with power scrub and cleaning brushes, then buff.

## Problem: Dull floor

### Possible cause

Possible solution

- **Not enough wax.**
- Apply another thin coat of wax. Polish and buff.
- **Floor not dry when wax applied.**
- Clean and rewax floor.
- **Floor not clean when wax applied.**
- Clean and rewax floor.

## Problem: Streaked floor

### Possible cause

Possible solution

- **Uneven application of wax.**
- Clean and rewax floor. Apply wax evenly.
- **Heavy build-up of wax.**
- Remove wax, then apply thin coat.
- **Applying one type of wax over another.**
- Clean and rewax floor. (Use only one type of wax on floor.)
- **Oil mop used on floor.**
- Clean and rewax floor. (Do not use oil mop on waxed floor.)

## Problem: Yellow or gray floors

### Possible cause

Possible solution

- **Too many applications of wax.**
- Clean and rewax floor. Apply thin coat of wax.
- **Too much wax in areas of light traffic.**
- Clean and rewax floor. (Apply only one coat of wax in these areas.)

## Problem: Scratched floor

### Possible cause

Possible solution

- **Gritty dirt on floor.**
- Clean and rewax floor. If floor is waxed, only wax gets scratched. (Use vacuum cleaner to remove dirt.)

## Problem: Black marks

### Possible cause

Possible solution

- **Scuffing from rubber heels.**
- To remove from waxed floor, dampen fine steel wool with wax and rub spots, then polish.

## Problem: Powdering of wax

### Possible cause

Possible solution

- **Self polishing wax applied over solvent-base wax.**
- Clean and rewax floor. (Do not mix waxes.)
- **Floor not clean when wax is applied.**
- Clean and rewax floor.